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**ENGROSSED SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5990**

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**State of Washington**

**62nd Legislature**

**2012 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Transportation (originally sponsored by Senators Haugen, King, and Eide)

READ FIRST TIME 01/31/12.

1       AN ACT Relating to state flower special license plates; reenacting  
2 and amending RCW 46.18.200, 46.17.220, 46.68.420, and 46.18.060; adding  
3 a new section to chapter 46.04 RCW; and providing an effective date.

4       BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5       **Sec. 1.** RCW 46.18.200 and 2011 c 229 s 1, 2011 c 225 s 1, and 2011  
6 c 171 s 69 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

7       (1) Special license plate series reviewed and approved by the  
8 department:

9       (a) May be issued in lieu of standard issue or personalized license  
10 plates for vehicles required to display one and two license plates  
11 unless otherwise specified;

12       (b) Must be issued under terms and conditions established by the  
13 department;

14       (c) Must not be issued for vehicles registered under chapter 46.87  
15 RCW; and

16       (d) Must display a symbol or artwork approved by the department.

17       (2) The department approves and shall issue the following special  
18 license plates:

1	LICENSE PLATE	DESCRIPTION, SYMBOL, OR ARTWORK
2	Armed forces collection	Recognizes the contribution of veterans, active duty military personnel, reservists, and members of the national guard, and includes six separate designs, each containing a symbol representing a different branch of the armed forces to include army, navy, air force, marine corps, coast guard, and national guard.
3	Endangered wildlife	Displays a symbol or artwork, approved by the special license plate review board and the legislature.
4	Gonzaga University alumni association	Recognizes the Gonzaga University alumni association.
5	Helping kids speak	Recognizes an organization that supports programs that provide no-cost speech pathology programs to children.
6	Keep kids safe	Recognizes efforts to prevent child abuse and neglect.
7	Law enforcement memorial	Honors law enforcement officers in Washington killed in the line of duty.
8	Music matters	Displays the "Music Matters" logo.
9	Professional firefighters and paramedics	Recognizes professional firefighters and paramedics who are members of the Washington state council of firefighters.
10	Share the road	Recognizes an organization that promotes bicycle safety and awareness education.
11	Ski & ride Washington	Recognizes the Washington snowsports industry.
12	<u>State flower</u>	<u>Recognizes the Washington state flower.</u>
13	Volunteer firefighters	Recognizes volunteer firefighters.
14	Washington lighthouses	Recognizes an organization that supports selected Washington state lighthouses and provides environmental education programs.
15	Washington state parks	Recognizes Washington state parks as premier destinations of uncommon quality that preserve significant natural, cultural, historical, and recreational resources.

1	Washington's national park fund	Builds awareness of Washington's national parks and
2		supports priority park programs and projects in
3		Washington's national parks, such as enhancing visitor
4		experience, promoting volunteerism, engaging
5		communities, and providing educational opportunities
6		related to Washington's national parks.
7	Washington's wildlife collection	Recognizes Washington's wildlife.
8	We love our pets	Recognizes an organization that assists local member
9		agencies of the federation of animal welfare and control
10		agencies to promote and perform spay/neuter surgery on
11		Washington state pets to reduce pet overpopulation.
12	Wild on Washington	Symbolizes wildlife viewing in Washington state.

13 (3) Applicants for initial and renewal professional firefighters  
14 and paramedics special license plates must show proof eligibility by  
15 providing a certificate of current membership from the Washington state  
16 council of firefighters.

17 (4) Applicants for initial volunteer firefighters special license  
18 plates must (a) have been a volunteer firefighter for at least ten  
19 years or be a volunteer firefighter for one or more years and (b) have  
20 documentation of service from the district of the appropriate fire  
21 service. If the volunteer firefighter leaves firefighting service  
22 before ten years of service have been completed, the volunteer  
23 firefighter shall surrender the license plates to the department on the  
24 registration renewal date. If the volunteer firefighter stays in  
25 service for at least ten years and then leaves, the license plate may  
26 be retained by the former volunteer firefighter and as long as the  
27 license plate is retained for use the person will continue to pay the  
28 future registration renewals. A qualifying volunteer firefighter may  
29 have no more than one set of license plates per vehicle, and a maximum  
30 of two sets per applicant, for their personal vehicles. If the  
31 volunteer firefighter is convicted of a violation of RCW 46.61.502 or  
32 a felony, the license plates must be surrendered upon conviction.

33 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 46.04 RCW  
34 to read as follows:

35 "State flower license plates" means special license plates issued  
36 under RCW 46.18.200 that display the Washington state flower.

1       **Sec. 3.** RCW 46.17.220 and 2011 c 229 s 3, 2011 c 225 s 2, and 2011  
 2 c 171 s 58 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

3       (1) In addition to all fees and taxes required to be paid upon  
 4 application for a vehicle registration in chapter 46.16A RCW, the  
 5 holder of a special license plate shall pay the appropriate special  
 6 license plate fee as listed in this section.

7	PLATE TYPE	INITIAL FEE	RENEWAL FEE	DISTRIBUTED UNDER
8	(a) Amateur radio license	\$ 5.00	N/A	RCW 46.68.070
9	(b) Armed forces	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.425
10	(c) Baseball stadium	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	Subsection (2) of this
11				section
12	(d) Collector vehicle	\$ 35.00	N/A	RCW 46.68.030
13	(e) Collegiate	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.430
14	(f) Endangered wildlife	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.425
15	(g) Gonzaga University	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
16	alumni association			
17	(h) Helping kids speak	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
18	(i) Horseless carriage	\$ 35.00	N/A	RCW 46.68.030
19	(j) Keep kids safe	\$ 45.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.425
20	(k) Law enforcement	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
21	memorial			
22	(l) Military affiliate radio	\$ 5.00	N/A	RCW 46.68.070
23	system			
24	(m) Music matters	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
25	(n) Professional firefighters	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
26	and paramedics			
27	(o) Ride share	\$ 25.00	N/A	RCW 46.68.030
28	(p) Share the road	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
29	(q) Ski & ride Washington	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
30	(r) Square dancer	\$ 40.00	N/A	RCW 46.68.070
31	(s) <u>State flower</u>	<u>\$ 40.00</u>	<u>\$ 30.00</u>	<u>RCW 46.68.420</u>
32	(t) Volunteer firefighters	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
33	((+)) (u) Washington	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
34	lighthouses			
35	((+)) (v) Washington state	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.425
36	parks			

1	<del>((w))</del> <u>(w)</u> Washington's	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
2	national parks			
3	<del>((x))</del> <u>(x)</u> Washington's	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.425
4	wildlife collection			
5	<del>((y))</del> <u>(y)</u> We love our pets	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.420
6	<del>((z))</del> <u>(z)</u> Wild on	\$ 40.00	\$ 30.00	RCW 46.68.425
7	Washington			

8 (2) After deducting administration and collection expenses for the  
9 sale of baseball stadium license plates, the remaining proceeds must be  
10 distributed to a county for the purpose of paying the principal and  
11 interest payments on bonds issued by the county to construct a baseball  
12 stadium, as defined in RCW 82.14.0485, including reasonably necessary  
13 preconstruction costs, while the taxes are being collected under RCW  
14 82.14.360. After this date, the state treasurer shall credit the funds  
15 to the state general fund.

16 **Sec. 4.** RCW 46.68.420 and 2011 c 229 s 4, 2011 c 225 s 3, and 2011  
17 c 171 s 87 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

18 (1) The department shall:

19 (a) Collect special license plate fees established under RCW  
20 46.17.220;

21 (b) Deduct an amount not to exceed twelve dollars for initial issue  
22 and two dollars for renewal issue for administration and collection  
23 expenses incurred by it; and

24 (c) Remit the remaining proceeds to the custody of the state  
25 treasurer with a proper identifying detailed report.

26 (2) The state treasurer shall credit the proceeds to the motor  
27 vehicle account until the department determines that the state has been  
28 reimbursed for the cost of implementing the special license plate.  
29 Upon determination by the department that the state has been  
30 reimbursed, the state treasurer shall credit the remaining special  
31 license plate fee amounts for each special license plate to the  
32 following appropriate account as created in this section in the custody  
33 of the state treasurer:

1	ACCOUNT	CONDITIONS FOR USE OF FUNDS
2	Gonzaga University alumni association	Scholarship funds to needy and qualified students
3		attending or planning to attend Gonzaga University
4	Helping kids speak	Provide free diagnostic and therapeutic services to families
5		of children who suffer from a delay in language or speech
6		development
7	Law enforcement memorial	Provide support and assistance to survivors and families of
8		law enforcement officers in Washington killed in the line
9		of duty and to organize, finance, fund, construct, utilize,
10		and maintain a memorial on the state capitol grounds to
11		honor those fallen officers
12	Lighthouse environmental programs	Support selected Washington state lighthouses that are
13		accessible to the public and staffed by volunteers; provide
14		environmental education programs; provide grants for
15		other Washington lighthouses to assist in funding
16		infrastructure preservation and restoration; encourage and
17		support interpretive programs by lighthouse docents
18	Music matters awareness	Promote music education in schools throughout
19		Washington
20	Share the road	Promote bicycle safety and awareness education in
21		communities throughout Washington
22	Ski & ride Washington	Promote winter snowsports, such as skiing and
23		snowboarding, and related programs, such as ski and ride
24		safety programs, underprivileged youth ski and ride
25		programs, and active, healthy lifestyle programs
26	<u>State flower</u>	<u>Support Meerkerk Rhododendron Gardens and provide for</u>
27		<u>grants to other qualified nonprofit organizations' efforts to</u>
28		<u>preserve rhododendrons</u>
29	Volunteer firefighters	Receive and disseminate funds for purposes on behalf of
30		volunteer firefighters, their families, and others deemed in
31		need
32	Washington state council of firefighters benevolent fund	Receive and disseminate funds for charitable purposes on
33		behalf of members of the Washington state council of
34		firefighters, their families, and others deemed in need

1	Washington's national park fund	Build awareness of Washington's national parks and
2		support priority park programs and projects in
3		Washington's national parks, such as enhancing visitor
4		experience, promoting volunteerism, engaging
5		communities, and providing educational opportunities
6		related to Washington's national parks
7	We love our pets	Support and enable the Washington federation of animal
8		welfare and control agencies to promote and perform
9		spay/neuter surgery of Washington state pets in order to
10		reduce pet population

11 (3) Only the director or the director's designee may authorize  
12 expenditures from the accounts described in subsection (2) of this  
13 section. The accounts are subject to allotment procedures under  
14 chapter 43.88 RCW, but an appropriation is not required for  
15 expenditures.

16 (4) Funds in the special license plate accounts described in  
17 subsection (2) of this section must be disbursed subject to the  
18 conditions described in subsection (2) of this section and under  
19 contract between the department and qualified nonprofit organizations  
20 that provide the services described in subsection (2) of this section.

21 (5) For the purposes of this section, a "qualified nonprofit  
22 organization" means a not-for-profit corporation operating in  
23 Washington that has received a determination of tax exempt status under  
24 26 U.S.C. Sec. 501(c)(3). The qualified nonprofit organization must  
25 meet all the requirements under RCW 46.18.100(1).

26 **Sec. 5.** RCW 46.18.060 and 2011 c 367 s 703, 2011 c 229 s 5, 2011  
27 c 225 s 4, and 2011 c 171 s 66 are each reenacted and amended to read  
28 as follows:

29 (1) The department must review and either approve or reject special  
30 license plate applications submitted by sponsoring organizations.

31 (2) Duties of the department include, but are not limited to, the  
32 following:

33 (a) Review and approve the annual financial reports submitted by  
34 sponsoring organizations with active special license plate series and  
35 present those annual financial reports to the joint transportation  
36 committee;

1 (b) Report annually to the joint transportation committee on the  
2 special license plate applications that were considered by the  
3 department;

4 (c) Issue approval and rejection notification letters to sponsoring  
5 organizations, the executive committee of the joint transportation  
6 committee, and the legislative sponsors identified in each application.  
7 The letters must be issued within seven days of making a determination  
8 on the status of an application; and

9 (d) Review annually the number of plates sold for each special  
10 license plate series created after January 1, 2003. The department may  
11 submit a recommendation to discontinue a special plate series to the  
12 executive committee of the joint transportation committee.

13 (3) Except as provided in RCW 46.18.245, in order to assess the  
14 effects and impact of the proliferation of special license plates, the  
15 legislature declares a temporary moratorium on the issuance of any  
16 additional plates until July 1, 2013. During this period of time, the  
17 department is prohibited from accepting, reviewing, processing, or  
18 approving any applications. Additionally, a special license plate may  
19 not be enacted by the legislature during the moratorium, unless the  
20 proposed license plate has been approved by the former special license  
21 plate review board before February 15, 2005.

22 ~~(4) ((The volunteer firefighters license plates created under RCW~~  
23 ~~46.18.200 are exempt from the requirements of subsection (3) of this~~  
24 ~~section.~~

25 ~~(5) The Music Matters license plates created under RCW 46.18.200~~  
26 ~~are exempt from the requirements of subsection (3) of this section))~~  
27 The limitations under subsection (3) of this section do not apply to  
28 the following special license plates:

29 (a) Music Matters license plates created under RCW 46.18.200;

30 (b) State flower license plates created under RCW 46.18.200;

31 (c) Volunteer firefighter license plates created under RCW  
32 46.18.200.

33 NEW SECTION. Sec. 6. This act takes effect January 1, 2013.

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